

### REMARKS

The present Amendment is submitted after issuance of the Notice of Allowance dated December 7, 2005. The present Amendment was not submitted earlier because the revision to claim 36 was not noticed earlier.

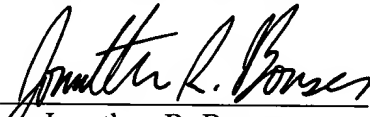
Claim 36 was amended in an Examiner's Amendment in the Notice of Allowance. However, claim 36 incorrectly includes a comma in the eighteenth line of claim 36 between the terms "a reading operation of" and "the second apparatus." The present Amendment is submitted to delete this comma from the eighteenth line of claim 36 in order to ensure proper protection of the present invention.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to claim 36 is directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

The present Amendment serves to ensure proper disclosure and protection of the invention. Entry of the present Amendment will not require any substantial amount of work on the part of PTO personnel. Therefore, entry of the present Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Hideki MATSUSHIMA et al.

By:   
Jonathan R. Bowser  
Registration No. 54,574  
Attorney for Applicants

JRB/nrj  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
March 7, 2006